

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-10 SS-15 ACDA-19

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R 311635 Z MAY 73
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1886
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 933

E. O. 11652: GDR
TAGS: PGOV, WB, SU
SUBJECT: SOVIETS COMPLAIN ABOUT PRESS REPORTS ON SENAT INSTRUCTION
RE CONTACTS WITH SOVIETS

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELLOR BELETSKIY REQUESTED MEETINGS WITH US AND FRENCH POLADS MAY 31 (BRITISH NOT AVAILABLE) TO COMPLAIN ABOUT SENAT INSTRUCTION TO LOCAL OFFICIALS RE DEALINGS WITH SOVIETS FOLLOWING ESTABLISHMENT OF FACILITIES PROVIDED FOR IN QA. LOCAL PRESS HAD REPORTED DETAILS OF INSTRUCTION, WHICH HAD BEEN WORKED OUT WITH ALLIES AND REFLECTED LATTERS' VIEWS AS CONVEYED TO SENAT IN FEBRUARY. BELETSKIY MADE LOW- KEY COMPLAINT ABOUT SENAT ATTEMPT TO " INTERPRET" FOUR POWER AGREEMENT, BUT US POLAD RESPONDED THAT SENAT HAD MERELY ISSUED GUIDELINES, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES, IN ORDER TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS. THE GUIDELINES, HE STRESSED, WERE IN CONFORMITY WITH PROVISION OF QA. END SUMMARY.
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2. SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR BELETSKIY AT MEETING WITH US POLAD MAY 31, ARRANGED AT FORMER'S REQUEST ON SHORT NOTICE, COMPLAINED " UNDER INSTRUCTIONS" BUT IN LOW KEY ABOUT PRESS ARTICLE IN TAGESSPIEGEL MAY 31 REPORTEDLY BASED ON SENAT INSTRUCTION TO ITS OFFICIALS ABOUT CONTACTS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS. BELETSKIY SAID HIS AMBASSADOR HAD ASKED HIM TO RELAY CONCERN THAT SENAT WAS ACTING AS IF IT COULD DEFINE COMPETENCE OF SOVIET OFFICIALS, IN PARTICULAR SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN BONN. DESCRIBING HIS CALL AS FRIENDLY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS, BELETSKIY WENT ON TO ASK IF US WOULD LOOK INTO MATTER TO SEE IF SENAT INSTRUCTION CORRESPONDED TO INTERESTS OF ALL CONCERNED.

3. SENAT INSTRUCTION, CLASSIFIED EQUIVALENT OF " OUO," CLOSELY REFLECTED PRESENTATION MADE BY POLADS TO SENAT HEAD OF CHANCELLERY MUELLER AND OTHER OFFICIALS IN FEBRUARY TO CLARIFY DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN MATTERS ON WHICH ALLIES AND SENAT WOULD DEAL WITH MEMBERS OF SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL AS OPPOSED TO SOVIET EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN EAST BERLIN. PAPER ALSO COVERED TREATMENT OF COMMERCIAL PERSONNEL (NO IMMUNITIES), DESIGNATIONS OF OFFICES, GUIDELINES FOR INVITATIONS, RESPONSES TO REQUESTS FOR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ETC. SENAT HAD WELCOMED PRESENTATION WITH WHICH IT WAS IN FULL AGREEMENT, AND, IN CONSULTATION WITH ALLIED MISSIONS, CONVERTED SUBSTANCE INTO SENAT INSTRUCTION TO ITS PERSONNEL DATED MAY 28. THIS WAS APPROVED BY SENAT MEMBERS MAY 29 AND WAS ISSUED FOLLOWING DAY. (COPIES POUCHED TO EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT.) DETAILS LEAKED IMMEDIATELY TO PRESS, WHICH CARRIED SUBSTANTIAL AND GENERALLY ACCURATE ACCOUNTS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO BELETSKIY' REMARKS, US POLAD STRESSED THAT SENAT WAS NOT " INTERPRETING" FOUR POWER AGREEMENT WHICH ONLY SIGNATORIES TO AGREEMENT COULD DO. HE SAID THAT ALLIES HAD THOUGHT IT WAS IN INTEREST OF ALL TO HAVE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES MADE CLEARRR THROUGHOUT SENAT TO AVOID FUTURE MISUNDERSTANDINGS. SENAT HAD NOT TRIED TO DEFINE

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COMPETENCE OF ANY SOVIET OFFICIAL, BUT ONLY TO SET DOWN, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH ALLIES, CONSEQUENCES FOR SENAT OF PROVISIONS IN QA WITH RESPECT TO SOVIET FACILITIES. SENAT INSTRUCTION WAS BOTH DESIRABLE AND IMPORTANT, AS WELL AS BEING IN CONFORMITY WITH QA. ASKED BY BELETSKIY IF A COPY COULD BE PROVIDED " FOURTH INTERESTED PARTY," PLAD SAID IT WAS INTERNAL

DOCUMENT FOR SENAT'S OWN USE BUT THAT ALLIES WOULD BE
GLAD TO OFFER SHARKOV MORE DETAILED GUIDANCE ON HIS
ACTIVITIES IF SOVIETS DESIRED. BELETSKIY DID NOT
PURSUE MATTER FURTHER.

5. SENAT HAS INFORMED US THAT BURDAKIN OF SOVIET
EMBASSY HAD REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH SENAT MAY 31,
TO DISCUSS SAME SUBJECT, BUT HAD BEEN PUT OFF BECAUSE
OF LOCAL HOLIDAY. WE HAVE ADVISED SENAT THIS IS NOT
AN APPROPRIATE SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION
BETWEEN SOVIET EMBASSY AND SENAT. KLEIN

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